

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE
FORMER TODD COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES**

**For The Period April 22, 2006
Through December 31, 2006**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE
FORMER TODD COUNTY
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES

For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006

Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the former Todd County Sheriff for the period April 22, 2006 through December 31, 2006. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

Financial Condition:

The former Sheriff collected taxes of \$2,123,993 for the districts for 2006 taxes, retaining commissions of \$77,250 to operate the former Sheriff's office. The former Sheriff distributed taxes of \$2,046,240 to the districts for 2006 Taxes. Taxes of \$0 are due to the districts from the former Sheriff and refunds of \$0 are due to the former Sheriff from the taxing districts.

Report Comment:

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Deposits:

The former Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities.

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To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
Robert M. Burnside, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Arthur W. Green, Todd County Judge/Executive
Honorable Keith Wells, Former Todd County Sheriff
Honorable W. D. Stokes, Todd County Sheriff
Members of the Todd County Fiscal Court

Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the former Todd County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period April 22, 2006 through December 31, 2006. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the former Todd County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the former Todd County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid for the period April 22, 2006 through December 31, 2006, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

To the People of Kentucky
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor
Robert M. Burnside, Secretary
Finance and Administration Cabinet
Honorable Arthur W. Green, Todd County Judge/Executive
Honorable Keith Wells, Former Todd County Sheriff
Honorable W. D. Stokes, Todd County Sheriff
Members of the Todd County Fiscal Court

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated July 20, 2007 on our consideration of the former Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Based on the results of our audit, we present the accompanying comment and recommendation, included herein, which discusses the following report comment:

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas R. Wise & Company PSC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC

July 20, 2007

TODD COUNTY
KEITH WELLS, FORMER SHERIFF
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES

For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006

<u>Charges</u>	Special			
	<u>County Taxes</u>	<u>Taxing Districts</u>	<u>School Taxes</u>	<u>State Taxes</u>
Real Estate	\$ 318,094	\$ 310,354	\$ 1,170,858	\$ 433,150
Tangible Personal Property	13,041	15,275	44,676	51,978
Fire Protection	1,420			
Increases Through Exonerations	357	315	1,313	488
Franchise Corporation	15,971	17,302	54,637	
Bank Franchises	28,675			
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt		386	287	133
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	<u>↗ \$ 377,558</u>	<u>↗ \$ 343,632</u>	<u>↗ \$ 1,271,771</u>	<u>↗ \$ 485,749</u>
<u>Credits</u>				
Exonerations	\$ 1,840	\$ 1,921	\$ 6,707	\$ 3,224
Discounts	4,923	4,244	15,897	6,331
Transfer to Incoming Sheriff	<u>↗ 44,002</u>	<u>↗ 42,321</u>	<u>↗ 161,577</u>	<u>↗ 61,730</u>
Total Credits	<u>↗ \$ 50,765</u>	<u>↗ \$ 48,486</u>	<u>↗ \$ 184,181</u>	<u>↗ \$ 71,285</u>
Taxes Collected	<u>↗ \$ 326,793</u>	<u>↗ \$ 295,146</u>	<u>↗ \$ 1,087,590</u>	<u>↗ \$ 414,464</u>
Less: Commissions *	<u>14,176</u>	<u>12,544</u>	<u>32,628</u>	<u>17,902</u>
Taxes Due	<u>↗ \$ 312,617</u>	<u>↗ \$ 282,602</u>	<u>↗ \$ 1,054,962</u>	<u>↗ \$ 396,562</u>
Taxes Paid	312,546	282,540	1,054,694	396,460
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	<u>71</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>102</u>
Due Districts or (Refund(s) Due Sheriff) as of Completion of Fieldwork	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

TODD COUNTY
KEITH WELLS, FORMER SHERIFF
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2006 TAXES
For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006
(Continued)

* Commissions:		
10% on	\$	10,000
4.25% on	\$	1,026,403
3% on	\$	1,087,590

TODD COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Deposits

The former Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, which approval must be reflected in the minutes of the board or committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution.

TODD COUNTY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT
For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006
(Continued)

Note 2. Deposits (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the former Sheriff's deposits may not be returned. The former Sheriff did not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather followed the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of December 31, 2006, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 3. Tax Collection Period

A. Property Taxes

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2006. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 2007. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was October 9, 2006 through December 31, 2006.

Note 4. Interest Income

The former Todd County Sheriff earned \$2,511 as interest income on 2006 taxes. As of July 20, 2007, the former Sheriff owed \$130 in interest to the school district and \$262 in interest to his fee account.

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON
COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**



The Honorable Arthur W. Green, Todd County Judge/Executive
The Honorable Keith Wells, Former Todd County Sheriff
The Honorable W. D. Stokes, Todd County Sheriff
Members of the Todd County Fiscal Court

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the former Todd County Sheriff's Settlement - 2006 Taxes for the period April 22, 2006 through December 31, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated July 20, 2007. The former Sheriff prepared his financial statement in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the former Todd County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the former Todd County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the former Todd County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting which is a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statement that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control over financial reporting.

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On
Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards
(Continued)

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (Continued)

We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying comment and recommendation to be a significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

- The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statement will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we consider the significant deficiency described above to be a material weakness.

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the former Todd County Sheriff's Settlement – 2006 Taxes for the period April 22, 2006 through December 31, 2006 is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

The former Todd County Sheriff's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying comment and recommendation. We did not audit the Sheriff's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Todd County Fiscal Court and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC

July 20, 2007

COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

TODD COUNTY
KEITH WELLS, FORMER SHERIFF
COMMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

For The Period April 22, 2006 Through December 31, 2006

INTERNAL CONTROL – SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY AND MATERIAL WEAKNESS:

The Former Sheriff's Office Lacked Adequate Segregation Of Duties

During our review of internal control, we found that the former Sheriff's office lacked adequate segregation of duties. Due to the entity's diversity of official operations, small size, and budget restrictions, the former Sheriff had limited options for establishing an adequate segregation of duties. The former Sheriff could have implemented the following compensating controls to offset this internal control weakness.

- Surprise cash counts by the former official could have been performed.
- The former official could have agreed monthly tax reports to receipts ledger and disbursements ledger.
- All disbursement checks could have been signed by two people, one being the former official.
- Former official could have examined tax distributions prepared by another employee.
- Former official could have received a signed receipt documenting delivery.

Former Sheriff's Response: None

